Matigsalug language

Matigsalug (Matig-Salug Manobo) is a Manobo language of Mindanao in the Philippines. It belongs to the Austronesian language family. There are four major dialects: Kulamanen, Tigwa, Tala Ingod, and Matigsalug Proper. Dialects are divergent, such that Tigwa has marginal intelligibility of Matigsalug, and only Tala Ingod may have adequate intelligibility of Matigsalug. There are approximately 5,000 monolinguals, but have at least 50,000 speakers; most of whom are concentrated in Mindanao, notably in south central Bukidnon, North Cotabato (northeast), and northwestern Davao del Sur provinces.[3]

Matigsalug	
Matig-Salug Manobo	
Tigwa	
Native to	Philippines
Region	southern parts of Bukidnon province, Mindanao
Native speakers	50,000 (2010)[1]
Language family	Austronesian ■ Malayo-Polynesian ■ Philippine ■ Greater Central Philippine ■ Manobo ■ Central ■ South ■ **Matigsalug**
Dialects	Kulamanen Tigwa Tala Ingod Matig-Salug
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	`mbt`
Glottolog	`mati1250` (http://gl ottolog.org/resourc e/languoid/id/mati1 250)[2]

Contents

Alphabet

The Matigsalug alphabet consists of eighteen graphemes: a, b, d, e, g, h, i, k, l, m, n, p, r, s, t, u, w, y. The graphemes c, f, j, o, q, v, x, z are used in recently borrowed words and the names of people and places. Punctuation standards follow those of the Philippine national language. The glottal stop is represented by a hyphen when it occurs word medially, but not where it occurs intervocalically. For example, the word [manʔʌʔ] 'again' is written as *man-e,* while the word [tiʔaŋ] 'carry on the shoulder' is written as *tiang*.

Phonology

Vowels

Matigsalug has 4 vowels:[4] /i, ʌ, a, u/.

Long vowels do occur in Matigsalug, albeit rarely. The orthographic convention for long vowels is to write two vowel segments. For example, the word [paːn] 'bread' is written as *paan*. This is in contrast with the spelling convention of most other Philippine languages, where sequences of identical vowels are separated by a glottal stop, e.g. Tagalog *saan* ([saˈʔan]).

Consonants

There are 14 Matigsalug consonants. All the stops are unaspirated. The velar nasal occurs in all positions including at the beginning of a word.

Matigsalug consonant phonemes

	Bilabial	Alveolar /Dental	Post-al. /Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Nasal	m	n		ŋ	
Stop	p b	t d		k g	ʔ
Fricative		s			h
Approximant		l	j	w	

Stress

Stress in Matigsalug always occurs penultimately, that is, on the second-to-last vowel. Because it is completely predictable, stress is not marked orthographically.

Matigsalug does have small one-syllable clitics. When these phonologically join to the previous word, they cause the stress to shift in order to maintain penultimate stress. For example, the word for 'father' is *ámey*; when the possessive determiner *rin* 'his/her' is added, the stress shifts to the second syllable of the word for 'father': *améy rin*

Morphosyntax

Noun phrases

Nouns are preceded by a case marker. There are three types of case markers in Matigsalug.

First, similar to the better-studied *ang*-marking in Tagalog, the language also employs a case-marking reserved for the noun with which the verb agrees (via focus/voice morphology). This marker exhibits allomorphy depending on whether the noun is a proper noun or a common noun. *Si* is the allomorph used when the noun is a proper noun or a kinship term; *ka* is used when the noun is a common noun or a possessive noun phrase.

    si   Inday/Anggam
    Focus   Inday/uncle

    'Inday/Uncle'

    ka   tirè/geyinawa rin
    Focus   sugar cane/breath his

'the sugar cane/his breath'

Second, when the verb shows agreement with any other noun other than the agent/experiencer, the agent/experiencer is marked with a separate case marking. In other words, this would be comparable with the by-phrase in an English passive. This case marking also exhibits allomorphy depending on whether the agent/experiencer is a proper or a common noun. *Ni* is the allomorph used when the noun is a proper noun or a kinship term; *te* is used when the noun is a common noun or a possessive noun phrase.

> *ni*   *Inday/Anggam*
> NonFocus(Ag)   Inday/uncle

> 'by Inday/uncle'

> *te*   *lukes*
> NonFocus(Ag)   man

> 'by the man'

Lastly, there is case marking reserved for non-focused non-agent/experiencer roles in the clause. This case marking also exhibits allomorphy depending on whether the agent/experiencer is a proper or a common noun. *Ki* is the allomorph used when the noun is a proper noun or a kinship term; *te* is used when the noun is a common noun or a possessive noun phrase.

> *ki*   *Inday/Anggam*
> NonFocus   Inday/uncle

> 'to/from Inday/uncle'

> *te*   *lukes*
> NonFocus   man

> 'to/from the man'

Focus/voice morphology

Characteristic of Philippine-type languages, Matigsalug verbs carry what is known in the literature as <u>focus morphology</u>. This piece of morphology indicates the semantic roles of the participants in the clause with respect to the verb. Matigsalug can put the agent/experiencer (AF), goal (GF), location (LF), and instrument (IF) into direct focus.

In the first example, the prefix *eg-* indicates that the *ka*-marked noun functions as the agent, that is, the entity doing the kicking. In the second example, the prefix *eg-* in combination with the suffix *-en* together indicate that the *ka*-marked noun is the goal, that is, the entity being kicked.

> *Egsipè*   *ka*   *kuddè* *te*   *kuddè*
> NonPast-kick-Agent   Focus   horse   NonFocus   child

> 'The horse kicks the child'

> *Egsipeen*   *ka*   *kuddè* *te*   *kuddè*
> NonPast-kick-Agent   Focus   horse   NonFocus(Ag)   child

'The child kicks the horse'

General Reference

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